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Human Traffic Victims and Trends

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Human Traffic Victims and Trends

Context of the Problem

Human trafficking is quickly emerging as a primary human rights problem in the 21st century. As a result, human rights activists have come together to fight against human trafficking. Moreover, human trafficking is a worldwide problem and among the disgraceful offenses disturbing millions of individuals worldwide. Traffickers deceive people, including children, women, and men from different regions globally, and subject them to exploitative situations such as forced labor, prostitution, and slavery. Based on the snakehead gang, the individuals affected included women, men, and children. The gang performed their actions in Asia (China) and transported the victims to North America (L'Hoiry, 2018). The criminals who undertook human trafficking involved financiers such as Cheng Chui-Ping. Nonetheless, other perpetrators involved in the gang included the lorry driver Perry Wacker transporting the victims and Ying Guo, who was involved in translations (Kelso, 2001). While the impact of human trafficking is significant to the community, which includes a breakdown of families and communities, increased organized crimes undermine public health. Liu (2017) argues that there are limited studies concerning the prevalence of human trafficking incidences; thus, getting the scope of the problem and the relevant solutions have become difficult. As a result, it calls for more studies on the same to understand the root causes as well as appropriate steps to take towards combating the menace.

The Significance of Studying the Problem

Human trafficking is a very critical topic; however, it is not given the required concentration by researchers. Nevertheless, research plays a vital role in creating social and

political change. It should be conducted in a way that will maintain consistency and validity. Furthermore, the scarce in research in the field of human trafficking has impacts on the social understanding, policy funding and legislation. According to Nguyen & Nguyen (2018), there is a discrepancy in the definition because the ³Victims of trafficking and violence protection act developed their definition of human trafficking, emphasizing sex trafficking. For that reason, performing research on human trafficking operations will inform the public correctly. Also, having study will provide accurate data concerning human trafficking that can have political influence, affecting policy and legislation. Furthermore, research can play a significant role in fighting against human trafficking; however, when an unreliable study is performed providing wrong information, it can mislead the public and lead to making uninformed policy decisions.

The purpose of the Research

While human trafficking is considered modern-day slavery, the institutions required to fight the problem are not taking enough action. Research on the issue had continuously increased over the years, especially when the Trafficking Victim Protection Act was established. Liu (2017) posits that it is tough to get the number of victims of human trafficking as well as the prevalence of incidences because of the scarce information. Moreover, the lack of enough information makes it hard for law enforcement to realize the impacts the community is passing through. While many individuals are taken as victims through kidnapping, others are taken in different ways, including lies, deception, and being promised a better life and opportunities. Therefore, the primary purpose of this research is to focus on the characteristics of perpetrators and victims, evaluate the trends as well as mechanisms of operations. By doing so it sheds more light on the matter hence bringing up possible solutions.

Literature Review

Human trafficking and smuggling of migrants have always been considered as part of the organized crime. According to L'Hoiry (2018), global organized crimes had been identified as a priority threat to national crime. Therefore, L'Hoiry defined global organized crime as the ongoing criminal scheme that has a steady organizational structure and is nourished by fear and bribery. The organized crimes have stretched their operations and can operate in foreign nations as well as in the United States, hence including human and drug trafficking, smuggling of migrants and money laundering. However, Nguyen & Nguyen (2018), states that majority of the victims of human trafficking are children and women. Thus, for the law to handle the situation effectively, they need to develop different response plans and laws to deal with human trafficking and migrants smuggling.

According to the research conducted by Liu (2017), argues that both human trafficking and migrant smuggling are perplexing because they happen through the same paths and always affect the same population. In most cases, several gangs begin their operations as smuggling migrants and convert to human trafficking as individuals being smuggled can easily be victims of human trafficking. For example, Thompson (2003), described the founder of the snake gang which operates in China. The snake gang started their operation as smuggling women, children and men from china to rich western countries including Australia and North America. As a result, the leader of the snake gang known as Sister Ping made millions of money through smuggling individuals; nonetheless, after twenty years of being traced, she was arrested and charged against smuggling over two hundred thousand men and women to European countries (Thompson, 2003).

Moreover, the snake gang is among the deadliest gang that deals with human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Kelso (2001) gives a clear picture of Perry Walker a truck driver being involved with snake gang in the smuggling operations. During the case, Perry walker was found guilty and charged for 14 years in jail after the truck he was driving was found with fifty-eight Chinese dead at Dover in 2000. Walker was facilitating the movement of illegal immigrants. The judge argued that human trafficking has ¹ added to the climate of resentment against asylum chasers and inspired the administration to take drastic measures.

Liu (2017), argues that there is a need for law enforcement agencies to join together and help each other fight the snakehead gang. With their complex structure, the capture and death of snakehead gang, Sister Ping did not result in the extinction of the group because currently the group operates and has been organized in a way that it is intricate for law enforcement agencies to identify their leaders. For example, You & Robinson (2019) states that the present leader of the snakehead gang has not been identified. Also, the gang has transformed its mechanisms based on current technological advancement, thus incorporating more victims. For instance, the use of social media applications such as MoMo and WeChat (You & Robinson, 2019). Moreover, for the gang to influence and entice more people, they promise them safe travel. When a person is taken to other countries illegally, the criminals tend to use the victim's consent as a protective measure; however, that is not regarded as a defense before the court of law. Therefore, through cooperation within countries to fight snakehead gang which is involved in the exploitation of the victims as well as the illegal immigrants can be stopped.

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